

Not on the Yellow-Brick Road, p.6

FREE



A 'Race' for Education, p. 4

The Valley Weekly

Friday
September 24, 2021
Vol. 8, No. 3
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mrs. Sarah Jean Luster Drake

"Peace to you, if you're willing to fight for it." - Fred Hampton

Ribbon Cutting Set for Extension Mobile Labs

As a land-grant university, the mission of Alabama A&M University (AAMU) involves the delivery of research-based information to communities. The late scientist George Washington Carver used the Jesup wagon, for example, to educate farmers about the latest agricultural practices. Today, modern wheels still roll into communities to educate audiences of all ages.

On Tuesday, October 5, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System at AAMU

will officially launch the opening of two mobile labs: one for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education and one for nutrition education. To mark the event, a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on The Quad of the AAMU campus.

"Alabama Extension at Alabama A&M is proud to kick off the grand opening of two mobile labs for STEM and health education. Both labs will help us to not only

reach underserved populations but to advance key STEM and health objectives critical to the state of Alabama," said Allen Malone, Extension director at AAMU.

The public is invited to tour the mobile labs and to stop by other exhibits featuring Alabama Extension programs and services. Contact Celia Stovall at (256) 763-1862 or ces0038@aces.edu. Visit www.aces.edu/urban to discover more about Extension.



REJOICE! Oakwood University's Aeolians will perform for the VocalEssence "WITNESS: Rejoice!" concert March 6, 2022 at Orchestral Hall in Minneapolis, Minn.

Transit a Key Service to Area Citizens

Public transit is a means of transportation for many residents without their own forms of getting around Huntsville for work or play.

Orbit, Huntsville Transit's fixed-route service, helps thousands of passengers get to grocery stores, shopping centers and workplaces each day. Access, the City's paratransit, appointment-only service, ferries dozens of people daily to critical medical appointments.

Huntsville Transit's system, which dates back to the early 1990s, is relatively young. Its fixed-route buses are on the road about 15 hours per day, and expansion is a priority.

A minor goal is to

improve service frequency from 60 to 30 minutes on fixed routes, starting with the ones riders use the most. Quisha Bryant, director of Parking and Public Transportation, said Huntsville Transit is about half-way there.

A re-evaluation of the overall transit plan, which includes areas where buses still operate on 60-minute intervals, will be reviewed in the spring.

- From HuntsvilleAL.gov

NSF Award Aims for Improved Math Skills



National Science Foundation awarded Alabama A&M University a mathematics research grant proposal for \$199,990 dollars for two years (September 1, 2021-August 31, 2023) as a Catalyst Project.

The project is funded under NSF's HBCU-UP program.

Dr. Salam Khan is the principal investigator (PI) and Dr. Anjan Biswas, Dr. Jacob Oluwoye and Dr. Lydia Davenport are the

co-PIs.

The project will develop and implement "Intelligent Adaptive Cyberlearning System to Improve Mathematics Skills for Freshman Students."

The Valley Weekly

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

Washington in One Minute, Page 2
Preston Brown's Champion Game Plan, Page 3
Valley Deaths, Page 3
Valley Events, Page 3
tim allston: Perspectives, Page 5
Rev. Michael Rice: Called 2 Preach, Page 6
"Jahni" Moore's PowerShots, Page 7
Spotlight on Our Elders, Page 7

Publisher

The Valley Weekly, LLC

Editor-in-Chief

Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

**Editorial Consultant/
Senior Editor**

Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial AssistantsLinda Burruss
Phyllis Chunn
William Huston, Sr.
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.**Advertising Associate**

Phyllis Chunn

- Contributing Editors -tim allston
Minister Preston Brown
Robert Drake
Ron Hamm
Pastor Michael D. Rice**Website Administrator**

Calvin Farier

Mailing Address:The Valley Weekly
4154 Church Street - Suite 100
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 651-9028
www.valleyweeklyllc.com
Copyright 2021

Items for consideration for publication in The Valley Weekly should be submitted at least TWO weeks in advance to above address or by e-mail to info@valleyweeklyllc.com. Items do not necessarily reflect the views of The Valley Weekly, LLC.

Submissions to TVW do not necessarily reflect the belief of the editorial staff and TVW is not responsible for the authenticity of submissions.

The Valley Weekly**Ad Rates Single Issue**

Back Cover	10x10-inches	\$1,000
Full Page	10x10 inches	\$800
3/4 Page	7.5x10 inches	\$600
Half Page	Horizontal 5x10 inches	\$400
	Vertical 10x5 inches	\$400
Fourth Page	5x5 inches	\$200
Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$100
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$50
Classified	1 col.x1 inch (4 col. in. minimum=\$24)	\$50/Flat Fee
6 Month/1 Yr.-10% & 20% Discount!		

Washington in One Minute



Here are the happenings in Washington, D.C., this week:

1. **ON THE FLOOR.** The House and Senate are in session this week. As the federal government hurtles toward the start of the new federal fiscal year on October 1, the next two (2) weeks will be a scramble for the House and Senate to pass key items, such as the suspension of the federal debt limit (currently hovering at \$28.5 trillion), a continuing resolution to keep the federal government operating in the absence of any of the 12 annual appropriations bills having been enacted, the \$3.5 trillion Budget Reconciliation bill, and the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure bill (a vote on which has been promised on the House floor on September 27). This week, the House will take up a bill to guarantee access to abortion after the Supreme Court refused to block a restrictive Texas law that bans most abortions, the \$770 billion annual Defense Authorization bill, the debt limit suspension bill, and the continuing resolution (CR) to keep the government open – although it has not been announced how long the CR will run. The Senate will continue work on federal judge nominees and await action from the

House on the CR and debt limit bills, which may be combined into 1 piece of legislation.

2. **THE WHITE HOUSE.** President Biden will host a meeting with U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson at the White House this week (PM Johnson is in the U.S. to address the U.N. General Assembly). On Wednesday, President Biden convened a virtual vaccine summit on the same day that the Centers for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will be having a 2-day meeting to discuss the implementation of a 3rd Pfizer vaccine shot for people over 65 years and those who are at high risk of severe Covid-19 (and received their 2nd dose at least 6 months ago), which will follow an expected formal recommendation for the shot from the Food and Drug Administration early this week – after its advisory panel endorsed a limited rollout of the shot on Friday. On Friday, the President will host Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga for a meeting at the White House of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, known as the "Quad."

3. **SENATE CANCELS APPROPRIATIONS MARKUPS.** The Senate Appropriations Committee markups for the FY2022 Transportation/HUD and Legislative Branch appropriations bills that were scheduled for this week have been cancelled due to an unrelated GOP objection to the amount of money allocated for defense programs. To date, Congress has sent none of the 12 annual appropriations to the President for his signature with the start of the federal fiscal year looming on October 1 (although the full House has approved 10 of the 12 FY 2022 appropriations bills and the Senate has approved 3 of the bills at the committee level).

4. **RECONCILIATION BILL ADVANCES.** After a number of marathon

sessions over the past 2.5 weeks, the House committees tasked with writing their portions of the \$3.5 trillion Budget Reconciliation bill – slated to be the vehicle for the President's American Families Plan – successfully submitted them to the House Budget Committee by last week's Wednesday deadline, where they will be assembled into 1 package for consideration on the House floor as early as next week. Notably, the House Ways and Means Committee voted on pay-fors for the bill that would increase federal revenues by about \$2.1 trillion over the next decade. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) announced last Tuesday that that Senate has received enough text to compile its version of the bill.

BROADBAND. On September 22 and 23, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration will hold a webinar on applying for its Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program, a \$268 million grant program for minority-serving institutions and other types of colleges to build broadband and digital technology capacities.

Hamm Consulting Group
444 North Capitol Street,
NW Suite 840
Washington D.C. 20001
T: 202-596-8384
rhamm@hammconsulting.com
www.hammconsulting.com

"The more laws, the less justice." - Cicero

MARY F SPEARS, AGENT**7833-A Highway 72 West****Madison, AL 35758****Bus: 256-837-8899 Fax: 256-837-8225****mary.spears.cffc@statefarm.com**

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CHAMPION
GAME PLAN

PRESTON BROWN





“DO YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY?”

Psalms 1:1 says, *Blessed (happy) is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.*

In the 1920s, an author by the name of William Lyon Phelps published a book entitled “Happiness”. In this book, Phelps talks about people who wished to either become happy or remain happy.

Now in our scripture reading, the writer of Psalms does not attempt to define happiness; he illustrates it. He shows

us that happiness is not in our circumstance, it is in ourselves. In other words, it’s not what’s going on around us, it’s what’s going on inside of us and more importantly it is the condition of our spiritual health and the degree of intimacy with God.

I’ve seen many older people who look physically unhealthy, but are spiritually in great shape. Now why is this? I believe it is because of this spiritual intimacy with God that made them extremely happy.

I can remember when my father, the late Pastor John M. Brown, as his health was fading, he would always encour-

age me by saying, “Preston, you are looking at a happy man.” Now I know, as I reflect back on this time, it was because of the close relationship that he had with God.


So If we want to be happy in life, let us all do what the Psalmist suggests as well as develop a more spiritual intimacy with God. Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.


Make sure you purchase a copy of my book *A Champion Game Plan For Life* at amazon.com.

This Sunday's Lectionary

Sunday, September 26, 2021

Track 1	or	Track 2
Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22		Numbers 11:4-29
Psalms 124		Psalms 19:7-14
James 5:13-20		James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50		Mark 9:38-50

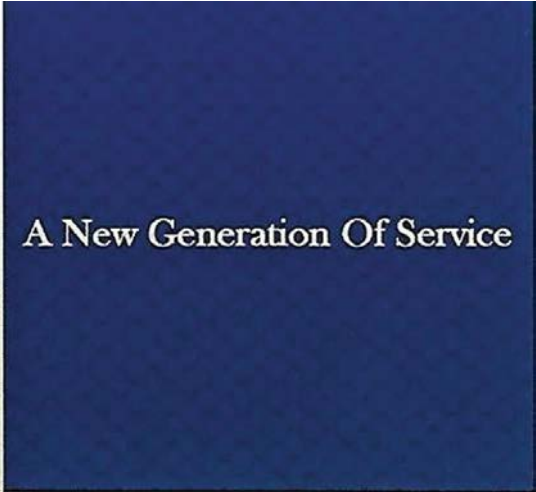




SERENITY
FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Dr. NW
Huntsville, Alabama 35816
(256) 539-9693

A New Generation Of Service



THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY
EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

September 24
Open Studio Night
Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment - 5 p.m.

Moon Taxi
Mars Music Hall
Von Braun Center

September 25
Bulldog Football
Gulf Coast Classic
AAMU vs. Tuskegee
Ladd-Peebles Stadium
Mobile, Ala. - 4 p.m.

September 28
Huntsville Rotary Luncheon
North Hall 1 - 11:45 a.m.

September 28-30
National Cyber Summit
South Hall
Von Braun Center

September 30
Kenny G
Concert Hall
Von Braun Center

October 1
Daniel Tosh
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall
Von Braun Center
7:30 p.m.

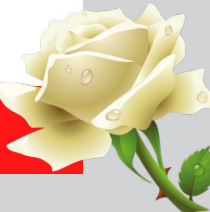
October 2
Rocket City Octane Auto Show
South Hall
Von Braun Center
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

October 9
Bulldog Football
AAMU vs. Jackson State
Louis Crews Stadium
2 p.m.

October 12
Boz Scaggs
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY
DEATHS



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME
2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189

Funeral service for MS. ANNETTE S. JAMAR (b. 1976) was held Saturday, September 18, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Reverend Huey Hudson officiating.

Graveside service for MR. QUINCY DAVIS HARRY, JR. (b. 1976) was held Saturday, September 18, at Northside Cemetery with the Reverend Timothy T. Smith officiating.

Graveside service for MR. JUSTIN A. FLETCHER (b. 1988) was held Tuesday, September 14, at Pine Grove Memorial Gardens (Harvest, Ala.) with the Reverend Ronnie Fore officiating.

Graveside service for MR. LOREN E. GILBREATH (b. 1969) was held Saturday, September 11, at Valhalla Memory Gardens with the Reverend Hurley Grissom officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME
4315 Oakwood Avenue - Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481

Memorial service for ELDER CHARLES BINFORD will be 12:00 noon, Sunday, October 3, at the Oakwood Seventh-day Adventist Church (7000 Adventist Boulevard NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Carlton P. Byrd officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. JENNIFER LYNN DODSON-JORDAN (b. 1968) was held Monday, September 20, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, AL 35810) with Dr. Wanda Missouri officiating.

Graveside service for MS. SHAQUILIA ANN BIRT (b. 1993) was held Sunday, September 19, at the Hatchett Cemetery in Tanner, AL with Reverend Thomas Sykes officiating.

Funeral service for REV. DERWOOD DOYLE WILSON (b. 1934) was held Saturday, September 18, at Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church (229 Church St. NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Maurice Wright, II, officiating.

Funeral service for MS. BRENDA KAYE BATTLE (b. 1954) was held Friday, September 17, at the Victory World Outreach Ministries (4901 North Memorial Parkway, Huntsville, Ala.) with Prophetess Sharon Whitelaw officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME
2505 University Drive NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-9693

A private ceremony will be held for MR. ERIC STEVEN SWAIN and MR. ARNOLD RACHEL (b. 1957) by their respective families at a later date. Arrangements are incomplete at this time for MRS. JANNIFER TURNER (b. 1962).

THE VALLEY WEEKLY ALL FOR THE FAMILY

by Margaret Jan Kelly, Ph.D.

The worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID 19) has created unprecedented stress and adversity for many individuals and families. Conflicting information continues to evolve, generating confusion about testing, vaccines, and treatments. Individuals and families are seeking the best ways to take care of and protect themselves.

Being aware of well-researched strategies on how to reduce anxieties and stress associated with COVID-19, can help families remain strong and functional—both physically and emotionally, during these turbulent times.

Concurrence among credible sources that focus on the well-being of children and families, reveal that building resilience can help families cope effectively, get through, and even overcome many hardships associated with COVID 19 and the Delta Variance.

Resilience means the ability to recover from or adjust to change or misfortune. Being resilient is not a skill with which one is born. It is built over time as the experiences an individual encounter evolve during his/her life's journey.

Each of us responds to stress and adversity differently. Two ways we can affect experiences and cope more successfully with stress and anxiety are discussed below.

1. Unload the Negative Side

-Try to reduce the sources of stress.

- **Lighten the load** by meeting basic needs like food, shelter, health care, transportation, and technical services.

- **Identify and contact community agencies** that can provide immediate assistance.

- **Create an enriching environment** for family members. Read books aloud, play games, share old positive stories from the past, look at family photos,



Dr. Margaret J. Kelly

take a family walk or bike ride, eat meals together and engage in daily meditation.

- Practice self-health care.

Eat nutritious meals, avoid sugary drinks, using illicit drugs and excessive drinking of alcoholic beverages, engage in regular health/age- appropriate exercises, get physical and mental health check-ups, and get plenty of rest.

2. Load Up the Positive Side.

- **Maintain** a daily routine, including waking up, showering/bathing and getting dressed at the same time each day.

- **Keep** at least a two-week supply of groceries and household items.

- **Take a break** from watching, and reading, listening to the news, using the telephone (including the cell telephone) and the computer.

- **Establish and maintain** a stable and committed relation-

ship with family members and friends via telephone calls, texts messages, emails, texts, FaceTime, Zoom meetings, video chats, mailing short notes and inspirational cards.

- **Reinforce and/or develop** core skills for things like planning less frequent trips to the grocery store or market. Make and follow a grocery/shopping list, plan and follow a spending plan/budget, make a daily schedule for performing household tasks and meeting the needs of family members.

- Read inspirational magazines and books.

- Meditate.

~ Think About It~

Your family may already be implementing many of the suggested strategies. **GREAT!** As you continue to forge onward, consider adding some of the strategies you are not currently using, to empower your family to thrive, regardless to societal circumstances.

Sources

Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University Merriam-Webster's Dictionary and Thesaurus National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) The National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress and Disorders (PTSD) The National Child Traumatic Stress Network



Beyond a bank. Beyond expectations.

At Bryant Bank, our vision is to see every Alabamian experience a financially stable future and live in a thriving community.

We are invested in your success and the success of the place we both call home. We're here to be a trusted partner, to exceed your expectations, and to help both you and our community invest in its full potential.

BRYANT BANK

Downtown Huntsville & Southeast Huntsville
Personal, Business, & Mortgage Banking Services
BryantBank.com | 256-535-1045
NMLS 582857



AAMU Educators Holding 5K Race Sept. 25

Can't make it to Mobile for the Gulf Coast Challenge?

You can show your school spirit by participating in the College of Education, Humanities and Behavioral Sciences' "CE-HBS 5K" on September 25! There will be a prize for the runner with the "Most School Spirit"—and it's not limited to the students! The race will begin at 8 a.m. near the Louis Crews



Stadium. If you would like to run, please sign up here:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/AL/Huntsville/AAMU-EHBSScholarship5K>.

All fees will benefit a scholarship fund for CE-HBS students. Students may run for free if they register here, but they are not guaranteed a t-shirt or medal without paid registration.

For more info, contact Theresa McWilliams-Wessels at Theresa.mcwilliams@aamu.edu.

*"Judge of a man by his questions
rather than his answers."*

- Voltaire



Are Vaccinations Alabama's/America's "Bronze Snake"? (REPRINT FROM 8/20/21 TVW)

Has anything changed in 50 years?

Marvin Gaye's 1971 classic, "What's Going On?" opens with:

*"Mother, mother: There's too many of you crying;
Brother, brother, brother: There's far too many of you dying;
You know we've got to find a way,
To bring some lovin' here today, . . ."*

This 1971 war against Communist expansion in Southeast Asia mirrors our 2021 war against COVID-19 expansion as we still fight an unseen enemy, especially in southeastern America's Alabama.

While Alabama is a national leader in college football it is also, unfortunately, a national leader in un-fully-vaccinated Americans at 34.4% or #46 nationally.

But unlike Marvin Gaye's song, the federal government did "find a way, To bring some lovin' here today": free vaccinations for all above 12 years old.

But we Alabamians will live if we recognize COVID-19 is a problem, not a hoax; take the vaccinations; and thus admit the error of misinformation - a widespread pandemic in itself. Just ask Moses.

In Numbers 21:4-9, the Israelites complained against God's alleged unfairness. God led Moses to liberate them from their 400-year Egyptian enslavement. Yet they complained about the hardships of freedom.

God then permitted poisonous snakes to bite them. When they admitted their misinformation, apologized, and begged for healing, God then directed Moses to make a bronze replica of a snake; place it on a pole, and those who chose to look up at it would live.

Yet, many refused and died in their own virus-like embrace of wrong information, or "infodemic" (www.dictionary.com).

Disinformation not Misinformation

Dictionary.com defines misinformation as spreading false information regardless of the intent to mislead; but disinformation is "knowingly spreading misinformation."

With the Israelites, the misinformation was that God was unfair was later disproved; however in 1971, the Vietnam War disinformation was that the US was winning but ultimately lost; and today's infodemic of disinformation is that COVID-19 is a hoax.

There is no hoax here. Alabamians can minimize their chances of COVID-19 illness or death through conforming to these four overlapping activities: watch your social distancing; wear your masks; wash thoroughly your hands; and get vaccinated.

This should now become our 50-year anniversary remix response to "What's Going On?"



Because it's a colorful world...

Xcel Services

Design • Print • Mail • Promotional

256-539-1658

www.xcelprint.com

W&A
WOMACK & ASSOCIATES LLC

"Partnering With You to Make Informed Decisions"

*Comprehensive Financial Planning *Estate Planning *Accounting Services
*Tax Planning and Preparation for Individuals, Businesses, Estates and Trusts

To learn more contact us:

Lori A. Womack, CPA/PFS, CFP®
Managing Member
lwomack@womackassociatesllc.com

4650 Whitesburg Dr S, Suite 101
Huntsville, Alabama 35802
256-534-1360

BURRITT
ON THE MOUNTAIN

Come Discover the Magic on the Mountain!

No matter what time of year you explore Burritt on the Mountain, there is something delightful and new to see. And no matter how young – or old – you are, there is something for you on the Mountain! If you've never visited, you're in for a treat. If it's been awhile, what are you waiting for? Come on up and let the Magic begin!

NOW OPEN!

3101 Burritt Drive • Huntsville, Alabama 35801 • 256.536.2882
www.burrittonthemountain.com

OPEN: April–October: Tuesday – Saturday: 9 am – 5 pm & Sunday: noon – 5pm
November–March: Tuesday – Saturday: 10am – 4pm & Sunday: noon – 4pm

COVID-19 Assistance

UNITED WAY COVID-19 Assistance Fund

Donate:
www.uwmadison-county.org

Get Assistance: Call 211

SMALL BUSINESSES

disastercustomerservice@sba.gov
(800) 659-2955

COVID-19-RELATED UNEMPLOYMENT

Alabama Department of Labor
(866) 234-5382
labor.alabama.gov

MADISON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(256) 539-3711

LATEST COVID-19 INFORMATION

Alabama Department of Public Health
www.alabamapublichealth.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
cdc.gov

TAKEOUT/ DELIVERY RESTAURANTS

<https://hsvchamber.org/restaurant-deliveries-take-out-food-service-providers/>

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CALLLED 2 PREACH

REV. MICHAEL RICE

Not on the Yellow Brick Road

Proverbs 1:23; 14:12-17;
Matthew 7:13

I grew up waiting and watching for the perennial playing of “The Wizard of Oz” every year during the holidays. It is the story of how Dorothy and her friends sought the wizard for a variety of things that they did not have but desperately desired. Dorothy wanted to get back home to Kansas. Tin Man wanted a heart. The Cowardly Lion

needed some “C-c-c-courage,” and the Scare Crow wanted a brain. They were directed to “Follow the yellow-brick road.” Obstacles galore started appearing as they journeyed down that road that was supposedly the answer to their problems. Of course, it turned out to be all a dream, which Dorothy discovered after being awakened by her Auntie Em.

Proverbs tells us of another group of travelers

among whom are backsliders, those who are secretly hurting, gullible people who believe everything they hear, and the like. The writer warns against living in a world of fantasy and seeking unwise paths to wholeness. Wisdom is personified as one who is “crying in the streets” and the promise is that “anyone” who turns will be given the

spirit of wisdom and revelation from God’s word. There is a warning however of a “way that seems right”

but leads to death. When it comes to real life, the path to wholeness is *not on the yellow brick road*. Jesus

said that it is “through the narrow gate.” Not many travelers, but it’s right.



MHI Pays Tribute to Community Advocate

Friends and volunteers of the Meadow Hills Initiative recently paid tribute to Charles E. Corley for his lengthy support of the organization and the community in which it is based.

The 86-year-old was born in Mississippi and reared in New Orleans, La., where he received a public education. He later completed a degree at Athens State University.

He married Susie Corley and to their union were born three children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Corley served in the U.S. Army for 35 years, with several overseas assignments including Vietnam, before becoming a civil servant at Redstone Arsenal.

For 10 years (1995-2005), Corley was an avid volunteer with the Meadow Hills Initiative, coordinating numerous community activities; mentoring youth;



conducting anti-drug efforts; stressing vocational training and job etiquette; transporting senior citizens; developing partnerships with

outside agencies; establishing a Neighborhood Watch program; and many other activities.

- Linda Chirwa



MADISON COUNTY
ALABAMA

Madison County Emergency Rental Assistance Program

NEED HELP PAYING RENT?



MCERAP can Help!

MCERAP can pay for rent, past due rent balances, and utility costs.

To apply please visit:
www.MCERAP.com

Call Center:
844-804-9454

This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number ERA-2101123007 awarded to Madison County Commission by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



Rosetta James Foundation "Spotlight on Our Elders" ... Featuring

Mrs. Sarah Jean Luster Drake

Mrs. Sarah Jean Luster Drake has nearly 50 years of achievement in developing productive, student-focused environments to maximize learning experiences from two and one-half years of age to post-secondary adults.

Mrs. Drake was born on February 26, 1946, to James and Annie Luster in Columbus, Miss. She is the youngest of five children.

She graduated from Alabama A&M University (AAMU) with a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education and special education. She earned the master's degree in special education/mental retardation and a certificate in psychometrics. Drake began teaching in 1968 as an educator of physically and mentally challenged students in Decatur City Schools.

In December of 1972, she married Mr. Cornell Franklin Drake. This union produced two children, Krynica LaShay and Kyas LaTron, and two grandchildren, Sarah LilyAnn and Melani Miracle.

She transitioned from teaching young students to focusing on educating college students from 1976 to 1993 at Alabama A&M University as an assistant

professor for special education and elementary education.

While at AAMU, she also served as coordinator of student teachers within the mental retardation department and supervised in-service teachers. In 1993, she left AAMU to continue developing young minds as the school administrator at First Missionary Baptist Church Child Development Center and Academy (FMBC-CDCA).

During her 14-year tenure, FMBC-CDCA saw growth in all classes from ages 2.5 years to 5th grade. In 2007, Mrs. Drake served as a Program Assistant for the North Alabama Skills Center. Mrs. Drake began sewing in 2009 as the program director of the After School & Summer Enrichment Program at Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church. She formally retired in 2018.

Currently, Mrs. Drake has volunteered as a tutor of students in reading and mathematics in Huntsville City and Madison County Schools. She has worked



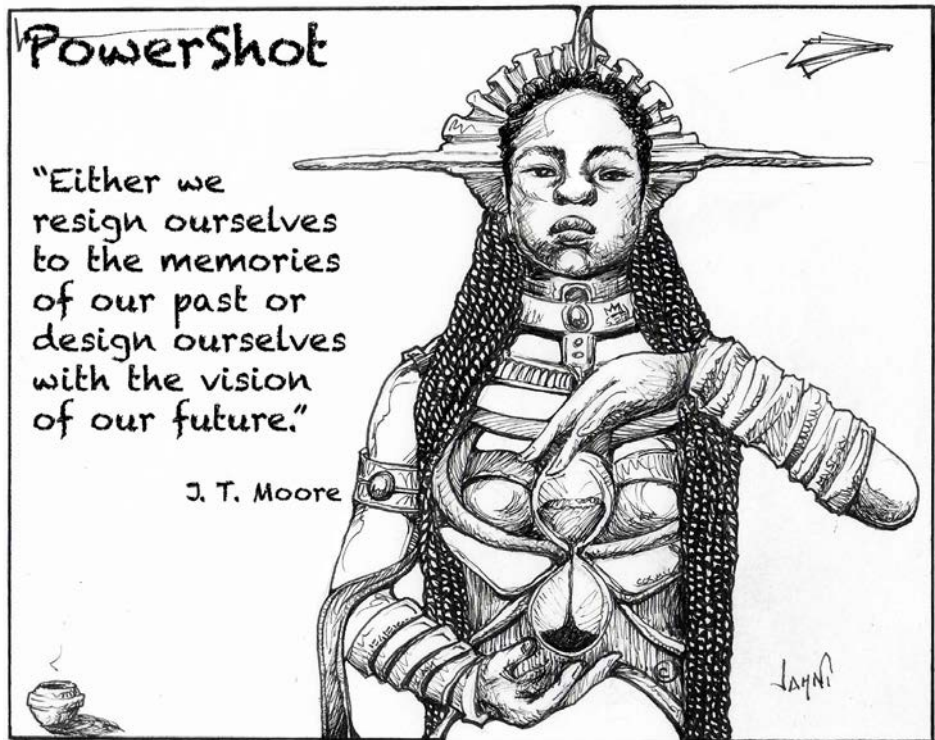
throughout the community in several organizations.

She is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children, National Education Association, Alabama Education Association and countless other organizations.

Drake has faithfully served her church, First Missionary Baptist Church, for over 45 years. She continues to be an active member of the Adult Choir, Congregational Care Layminister, teacher of Orientation Class for New Members, Day Spring Missionary Circle & Missionary Society Children's Bible Study.

She's also a member of the Angel Tree Ministry, Prayer Ministry & Witnessing Team.

"Spotlight on Our Elders" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote volunteerism and activism in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at www.rosettajamesfoundation.org. Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to info@valleyweeklyllc.com.



DRAKE STATE
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**SPARKING
GREAT CAREERS**

drakestate.edu



Albert's Flowers

Located Downtown in Medical District; Closest Florist to Huntsville Hospital
Free Delivery to Huntsville Hospital and Local Funeral Homes

716 Madison Street - Huntsville, AL 35801

**FLOWERS, GIFTS,
EXOTIC FLOWERS**

**Graduate of
American Floral Art School**

256-533-1623

256-536-6911

www.albertsflowers.com



SEPTEMBER 24 - MALINDA WILLIAMS - Malinda Williams is an American actress and producer. She began her career on television, before appearing in films "A Thin Line Between Love and Hate" (1996), "High School High" (1996), and "The Wood" (1999). - BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com



MAYHEM IS EXPENSIVE. ALLSTATE IS NOT.



JAMES F SMITH & ASSOCIATES
256-852-7310

415 CHURCH ST NW BUILDING B
HUNTSVILLE
jamesfsmith@allstate.com



Allstate

Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co. © 2013 Allstate Insurance Co.

168974



MARTINSON & BEASON, PC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1937

Personal Injury | Auto Accidents | Probate & Estate Administration
Corporate Law | Real Estate Law | Divorce | Criminal Law

Contact Us

Phone: 256-533-1667

Fax: 256-533-1696

info@martinsonandbeason.com

www.martinsonandbeason.com

facebook.com/martinsonandbeason



No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

WJAB

90.9 FM

www.wjab.org



Woody Anderson Ford

256-539-9441

www.WoodyAndersonFord.com

2500 Jordan Lane, Huntsville, AL



Progress Looks Like

Taking The Small
Steps That Make
A New House

Home



Birmingham

Daphne

Decatur

Destin

Florence

Huntsville

Inlet Beach

Jones Valley

Madison

Santa Rosa Beach

Vestavia

ProgressBank
myprogressbank.com